	Case 2:09-cv-02320-PMP-LRL Document 25	Filed 03/12/10 Page 1 of 9	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Thomas G. Ryan Nevada Bar No. 9378 Emily Gubler Clark Nevada Bar No. 10547 LEWIS AND ROCA LLP 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Telephone: 702-949-8200 Facsimile: 702-949-8398 Attorneys for Defendants Robert I. Adler, Renjie Lugare Greg Marcinkowski and Baoheng Shi	,	
8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
9	DISTRICT OF NEVADA		
10	CAROL KARCH, Individually and on behalf of	CASE NO.: 2:09-CV-2320-PMP-LRL	
12	all others similarly situated,	STIPULATION AND ORDER TO	
13	Plaintiff,	CONSOLIDATE CASES AND TO STAY PROCEEDINGS PENDING FAIRNESS	
14	vs.	HEARING UNDER RULE 23(e)	
15	SINOENERGY CORPORATION, TIANZHOU DENG, XIANG DONG YANG, BO HUANG,		
16	ROBERT I. ADLER, RENJIE LU, GREG MARCINKOWSKI, BAOHENG SHI, AND		
17	SKYWIDE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LIMITED,		
18	Defendants.		
19			
20	ROBERT E. GUZMAN, Individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	CASE NO.: 2:09-CV-2321-JCM-PAL	
21	•		
22   23	Plaintiff,		
24	VS.		
25	SINOENERGY CORPORATION, TIANZHOU DENG, XIANG DONG YANG, BO HUANG,		
26	ROBERT I. ADLER, RENJIE LU, GREG MARCINKOWSKI, BAOHENG SHI, AND		
27	SKYWIDE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LIMITED,		
28	,		
	Defendants.	<u> </u>	

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11	ERT GRABOWSKI, on behalf of himself	CASE NO.: 2:09-CV-2322-RCJ-RJJ
and all	l others similarly situated,	
	Plaintiff,	
	,	
vs.		
11	ZHOU DENG, BO HUANG, ROBERT I.	
	CR, RENJIE LU, GREG MARCINKOWSKI, HENG SHI, XIANG DONG YANG,	
11	ENERGY CORP., AND SKYWIDE	
11	TAL MANAGEMENT LTD.,	
	Defendants.	

Plaintiffs Carol Karch, Robert E. Guzman and Robert Grabowski and defendants Sinoenergy Corporation ("Sinoenergy"), Tianzhou Deng, Xiang Dong Yang, Bo Huang, Robert I. Adler, Renjie Lu, Greg Marcinkowski and Baoheng Shi (collectively, the "Parties") hereby stipulate and respectfully request that:

- (1) Guzman v. Sinoenergy Corp., et al., Case No. 2:09-CV-2321-JCM-PAL ("Guzman") and Grabowski v. Deng, et al., Case No. 2:09-CV-2322-RCJ-RJJ ("Grabowski") should be consolidated for all purposes with Karch v. Sinoenergy Corp., et al., Case No. 2:09-CV-2320-PMP-LRL ("Karch"). This Court has authority to grant the Parties' request pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 42(a).
- (2) this Court stay all proceedings in this case *sine die* pending conclusion of and approval by this Court as required under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e) of a settlement of these actions, as discussed more fully below and in the attached Exhibit A.<sup>2</sup>

### A. Consolidation of These Related Cases Will Promote Judicial Economy

There are no substantive differences among the above-captioned cases. Each of the three

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants Tianzhou Deng, Xiang Dong Yang and Bo Huang are parties to this stipulation only in their official capacities as directors of defendant Sinoenergy.

Although named as a defendant, Skywide Capital Management Limited ("Skywide") has not been served in any of the three cases and is not represented by counsel. Accordingly, Skywide is not a party to this stipulation.

Defendants are to respond to plaintiff's complaint and motion to remand in *Karch* by March 16, 2010. (Doc. 20.) In addition, this Court has scheduled a hearing on April 12, 2010, on the motion to remand. (Doc. 21.)

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actions involves the same proposed class, the same defendants and requests the same relief under the same legal theories.

The three actions consist of purported shareholder class action complaints filed by three different named plaintiffs on behalf of herself/himself and all other shareholders (with the exception of the individual defendants) of defendant Sinoenergy, a public company, against Sinoenergy, the members of its board of directors and Skywide, the company that proposes to merge into Sinoenergy (the "Merger Transaction"). All of the plaintiffs are represented by the same Nevada counsel. All three complaints assert claims for breach of fiduciary duties against the individual defendants and a claim for aiding and abetting against Sinoenergy and Skywide arising out of the Merger Transaction. The claims for relief in each of these three actions arise out of the same proposed Merger Transaction by which Skywide, Sinoenergy's largest shareholder, would acquire each common share of Sinoenergy for \$1.90 per share, a price alleged by plaintiffs to be inadequate.

These three cases were originally filed in the Eighth Judicial District Court in Clark County, Nevada on October 26 and 30, 2009. Defendant Sinoenergy thereafter removed all three cases to this Court on December 8, 2009, pursuant to the Class Action Fairness Act. Each of these actions is assigned to a different federal judge. 4 Consolidation of the actions before a single United States District Court Judge will serve the interest of judicial economy and avoid unnecessary costs and inconsistent results.

After these actions were filed and removed to this Court, the Parties discussed settlement and the above-captioned cases were preliminarily settled pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), conditioned upon expedited confirmatory discovery proceedings. Under the MOU, the Parties agreed, among other things, that they would jointly request that these actions be consolidated into the Karch action.

If this Court approves the consolidation of these cases, all future pleadings and papers filed

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The complaints in Karch and Guzman were filed in state court on October 26, 2009. The complaint in Grabowski was filed in state court on October 30, 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The civil cover sheets filed with the notices of removal in each of the three actions did not identify any related cases. (See Dkt. 1-1, case nos. 2:09-cv-2320, 2321 and 2322.)

and/or served in these consolidated cases shall bear the following caption:

CAROL KARCH, Individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff.

VS.

SINOENERGY CORPORATION, TIANZHOU DENG, XIANG DONG YANG, BO HUANG, ROBERT I. ADLER, RENJIE LU, GREG MARCINKOWSKI, BAOHENG SHI, AND SKYWIDE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LIMITED.

Defendants.

CASE NO.: 2:09-CV-2320-PMP-LRL

Consolidated with:

2:09-CV-2321-JCM-PAL 2:09-CV-2322-RCJ-RJJ

# B. The Parties Request a Stay of Proceedings Pending the Approval by this Court of Settlement

The Parties request that, once the cases are consolidated, this Court stay all proceedings pending conclusion of a settlement with approval of this Court as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e).

The Parties have signed and agreed to a MOU that outlines the settlement terms, which was, as noted, subject to confirmatory discovery. This discovery will be completed on March 12, 2010, and the Parties have agreed to submit thereafter a more formal Stipulation of Settlement setting forth the terms of settlement together with other documents needed to implement the settlement including, but not limited to, the form of notice to be given to the shareholders and attorneys' fees applications for approval by this Court.

Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a Notice of Settlement and Proposed Schedule that summarizes material terms of the settlement and a proposed schedule for the Court's consideration of the fairness, reasonableness and adequacy of the proposed settlement herein.

#### C. Conclusion

Since these three actions involve the same parties, same legal theories, same law and same request for relief, consolidation would promote the efficient and expeditious resolution of all

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1	claims between the parties. Additionally, the Parties have agreed to settlement terms, which			
2	provide for a final resolution of these actions, and thereby request a stay of the actions pending			
3	this Court's fairness hearing under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e). Accordingly, the Parties respectfully			
4	request that the Court approve this stipulation.			
5	DATED this 12 <sup>TH</sup> day of March, 2010.			
6				
7	COOKSEY TOOLEN GAGE DUFFY & WOOG	MCDONALD CARANO & WILSON LLP		
8	By <u>/S/ Martin A. Muckley</u>	By: <u>/s/ Jeffrey Silvestri</u>		
9	Griffith Hayes, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 7374	Jeffrey A. Silvestri, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 5779		
10	Martin A. Muckleroy, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 9634	2300 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite 1000 Las Vegas, NV 89102		
11	3930 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 200			
	Las Vegas, NV 89169 Attorneys for Plaintiffs Carol Karch, Robert	- and -		
12	E. Guzman and Robert Grabowski	SICHENZIA ROSS FRIEDMAN FERENCE LLP		
13	- and -	Michael H. Ference, Esq. Sameer Rastogi, Esq.		
14	STULL, STULL & BRODY	61 Broadway, 32 <sup>nd</sup> Floor		
15	Aaron L. Brody, Esq. Jason D'Agnenica, Esq.	New York, NY 10006		
16	6 East 45 <sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10017	Attorneys for Defendant Sinoenergy Corporation and Defendants Tianzhou		
17	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Carol Karch and Robert E. Guzman	Deng, Xiang Dong Yang and BoHuang in their Official Capacities as Directors of		
18	- and -	Sinoenergy Corporation		
19	WEISS & LURIE			
20	Joseph H. Weiss, Esq. James E. Tullman, Esq.			
21	551 Fifth Avenue, Suite 160 New York, NY 10176			
22	Attorneys for Plaintiff Robert E. Guzman			
23	- and -			
24	FINKELSTEIN THOMPSON LLP Donald J. Enright, Esq.			
25	Elizabeth K. Tripodi, Esq. 1050 30 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW			
26	Washington, D.C. 20007  Attorneys for Plaintiff Robert Grabowski			
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1	LEWIS AND ROCA LLP			
2				
3	By /s/ Thomas G. Ryan Thomas G. Ryan, Esq.			
4	Nevada Bar No. 9378 Emily Gubler Clark, Esq.			
5	Nevada Bar No. 10547 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600			
6	Las Vegas, Nevada 89169			
7	- and -			
8	ARENT FOX LLP Bernice K. Leber, Esq.			
9	Jennifer Bougher, Esq. 1675 Broadway			
10	New York, NY 10019			
11	Attorneys for Defendants Robert I. Adler, Renjie Lu, Greg Marcinkowski and			
12	Baoheng Shi			
13				
14				
15				
16	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:			
17	1. The above-captioned cases will be consolidated into a single action ( <i>Karch</i> ), unde			
18	Case No. 02:09-cv-2320-PMP-LRL; and			
19	2. Proceedings in these consolidated cases shall be and are hereby stayed pending			
20	hearing pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e) as to the fairness of the proposed settlemer			
21	to the shareholders.			
22				
23	UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE Dated:			
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<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>

I hereby certify that I am an employee of Lewis and Roca LLP and that on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010 a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served on the parties to this case through electronic transmission of the Notice of Electronic Filing, which constitutes service of a document on Filing Users under the Court's Electronic Fling Procedures to all parties to this case who are Filing Users of the Electronic Filing System of the United States District Court for the District of Nevada.

/s/ Judy Estrada
An Employee of Lewis and Roca LLP

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**EXHIBIT "A"** 

#### NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT AND PROPOSED SCHEDULE

On October 26 and 30, 2009, three substantially similar putative shareholder class action complaints styled *Karch v. Sinoenergy Corp., et al., Guzman v. Sinoenergy Corp., et al.* and *Grabowski v. Deng, et al.* (the "Actions") were filed in state court. The claims for relief in each of the Actions arise out of the same proposed merger transaction by which Skywide Capital Management Limited would acquire each common share of Sinoenergy Corporation for \$1.90 per share, a price alleged by plaintiffs to be inadequate.

Following removal to this Court, the parties initiated settlement discussions, pursuant to which plaintiffs undertook confirmatory discovery and Sinoenergy amended its preliminary proxy materials – all in furtherance of settlement of the Actions.

Subject to approval of this Court, the parties have now agreed to a full and final settlement, which includes, among other things:

- a. maintenance of the Actions as class actions for purposes of settlement only;
- b. proposed notice to class members;
- c. full release of all claims; and
- d. proposed attorneys' fees to plaintiffs' counsel or their agent(s).

The parties intend to submit a Stipulation of Settlement upon entry of this Court's Order for Consolidation and to Stay Proceedings Pending Fairness Hearing under Rule 23(e).

In their Stipulation of Settlement, and by this Notice, the parties request that this Court schedule a hearing – on or before April 19, 2010 – for purposes of seeking approval, and a determination of the fairness, reasonableness and adequacy, of the proposed settlement.<sup>1</sup>

The parties suggest that this Court, which has already scheduled argument on plaintiff's motion to remand for April 12, 2010 at 9 a.m. (see Doc. 21), maintain that hearing, but convert it to a "fairness hearing" under Rule 23(e).